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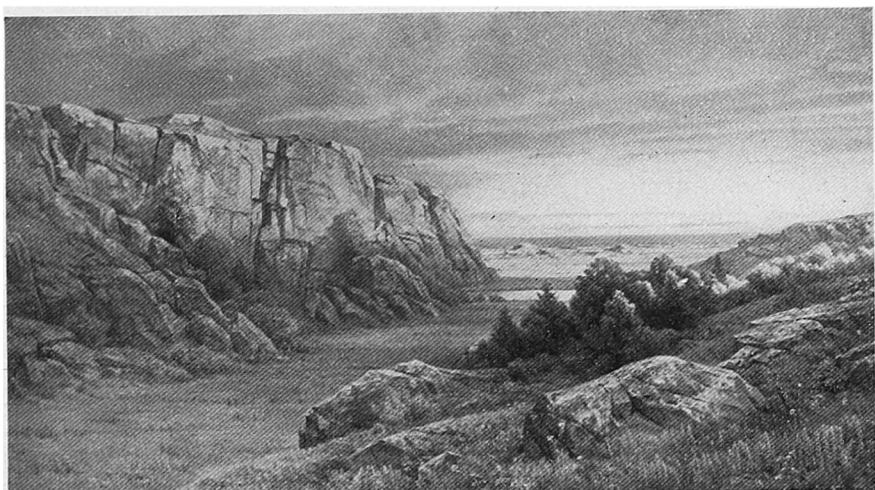
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## PASSING OF A PUBLIC BENEFACTOR

Samuel P. Avery, public benefactor, and one of the foremost men in art circles for five decades, died recently at his home in New York, in his eighty-third year. Mr. Avery was born in New York March 17, 1822. His early services were in the employ of a bank-note company, where he studied copper-plate engraving. Later he engraved on wood. This early education led him to a study of art. In 1865 his mechanical training had resulted in the publication of several volumes of a humorous nature, for which he supplied the



GRAY CRAG, NEWPORT  
By William T. Richards

illustrations himself. The same years he became a dealer in art. His progress was so rapid that two years later he was appointed commissioner of art at the Universal Exhibition in Paris. He then abandoned his engraving pursuits and entered upon art enterprises, which continued until 1888, when he retired. Mr. Avery was for several years secretary to the art committee of the Union League Club. This led to the organization of the Metropolitan Museum of Art, of which he became one of the founders. He held many other posts of honor, having been a trustee of the New York Public Library, Astor, Lenox, and Tilden foundations; was president of the Grolier Club, vice-president of the Sculpture Society, honorary member of the Architectural League, and of the Typothetæ Society. In 1897 Mr. Avery was appointed on the art commission. The year previous the degree of master of arts was conferred on him by Columbia University.



**TEMPLE SCREEN**

Japanese Lacquer and Pigment Painting  
Courtesy of Yamanaka & Co., New York